



Module Specification

AP Studio 3.2

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Part 1: Information

Module title: AP Studio 3.2

Module code: UBLL7G-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Architecture and Environment

Partner institutions: None

Field: Architecture and the Built Environment

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: AP Studio 2.2 2026-27, Studio 2.1 - Living 2026-27

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: AP Studio 3.1 2027-28

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This studio module shifts focus to an international urban context, challenging students to design within a compact infill site. Projects emphasize the development of fully detailed architectural schemes that respond to diverse climatic conditions, fostering a global perspective on design. The module prioritizes ethical and sustainable decision-making processes, encouraging students to consider the broader implications of their work.

Students will engage with architectural massing, structural and construction

methods, and technical strategies specific to non-domestic buildings. Key considerations such as life safety, maintenance, and supply chain logistics will shape their design approach. Case study research will support the exploration of innovative construction techniques and inform technical solutions.

The compact site demands a heightened focus on life safety and construction methodology. Students will address complex environmental challenges, leveraging technical and material innovations to produce sustainable, practical, and impactful design outcomes. This module equips students with creative and professional skills to navigate contemporary architectural challenges.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The educational aims of this module are to develop students' ability to design innovative and sustainable architectural solutions within a compact urban context. It fosters a global perspective on architecture, emphasizing ethical decision-making and responsiveness to diverse climatic and cultural conditions. This will require students to develop their project brief writing skills to establish design parameters to guide their work.

Students will gain advanced knowledge of structural systems, construction methodologies, and life safety considerations, integrating technical and material innovations into their designs. The module aims to cultivate professional and creative skills by encouraging critical thinking, case study research, and technical precision, preparing students to address complex environmental and societal challenges in contemporary architecture.

Outline syllabus: This module integrates advanced architectural design principles, technical knowledge, and ethical practices to address the challenges of a compact urban infill project within an international context. The studio syllabus is structured as follows:

Brief Development and Contextual Analysis

Introduction to writing comprehensive studio briefs to establish project parameters and objectives.

Exploring case studies to understand best practices in compact infill developments.

Developing design concepts and massing strategies responsive to the site's constraints and opportunities.

Research Frame, Structural Systems and associated Construction Methodologies for

non-domestic buildings. Including modern methods of construction.

Life Safety, supply chain logistics and accessibility.

Technical Integration and Innovation to meet the complex challenges to practicality with design ambition.

Representation and Communication to produce architectural representations, including drawings, physical and digital models, and visualizations.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module employs a blend of studio-based learning, workshops, and independent study to support students' design development.

Scheduled Teaching and Learning expands on the 2nd year masterplan studio and includes:

Lectures will be used to provide the background theories, concepts and examples from research and practice;

Exercises and workshops will be used to consolidate this material and allow students to apply this knowledge in different scenarios and critically evaluate examples from practice;

Students will work in groups and discuss their ideas in class to facilitate peer critical evaluation;

Workshops and tutorials focus on how these topics can be fully integrated into student design projects, and requires a diverse set of staff and associated professionals.

Independent study encourages students to deepen their research, refine their designs, and develop a cohesive portfolio.

Studio tutorials and formative feedback sessions provide regular, constructive input to guide students' iterative design processes.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Develop a comprehensive architecture and urban design proposal that integrates climatic, cultural and user needs.

MO2 Analyse architectural precedent and contextual research to inform a site specific response to an architectural brief.

MO3 Propose and integrate technical strategies for structure, construction technologies, and environmental systems, including thermal comfort, ventilation, lighting, and acoustics. Address life safety, building fire safety, accessibility, and sustainability, ensuring alignment with social value and inclusivity principles.

MO4 Prepare and present design solutions effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences using diverse media. Demonstrate ethical decision-making and a commitment to balancing client needs with broader societal, cultural, and environmental objectives.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 192 hours

Face-to-face learning = 108 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/66DF9919-7CE9-1ADF-4821-8770DE7A8A87.html) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/66DF9919-7CE9-1ADF-4821-8770DE7A8A87.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Design Portfolio (100%)

Content: The Design Portfolio is submitted at the end of the Teaching Block. It showcases the evolution of the infill proposal from form ideas to a detailed architectural proposal, demonstrating technical approaches, detailing solutions. The portfolio should include a variety of media, such as detailed architectural and master

planning drawings, physical and digital models, and visualisations, to communicate the final design effectively. It should also highlight how their research has informed the design process.

Objectives: This assessment measures the student's ability to synthesise research and design into a cohesive architectural project. Students will be expected to develop innovative solutions that address user needs, contextual conditions, and regulatory requirements while demonstrating creativity and technical competence. The portfolio should communicate the project effectively, employing a range of media appropriate to the audience, including technical drawings, models, and narrative explanations of design intent and development.

Formative Feedback

Formative feedback is provided throughout the module, including during studio tutorials and interim reviews. This iterative process allows students to refine both the masterplan and building design.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Design Portfolio (100%)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Design Portfolio (100%)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Architecture and Planning [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26